



# TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

TRANSFORMING YOUNG LIVES AND CREATING SAFER COMMUNITIES

## **Response to the Independent Ombudsman Second Quarter Report, FY 2017 April 17, 2017**

The Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) has received the FY 17 Second Quarter Report from the Office of the Independent Ombudsman (OIO). TJJD appreciates the opportunity to respond.

TJJD reviewed findings from the OIO FY 17 Second Quarter Report against the FY 17 First Quarter Report. While the number of closed cases by the OIO was twenty-three (23) in both quarters, TJJD noted that the number of inquiries involving TJJD state committed youth and the number of complaints received regarding those youth were both down in the second quarter. Inquiries were down to 196 from 232 in the First Quarter and Complaints were down to 21 from 23 and involving a smaller number of facilities overall.

TJJD continues to move forward with implementation of the Youth in Custody Practice Model implementing programming and policies related to national best practices in juvenile justice. This is resulting in better overall re-entry planning, improvements to case management, improvements to the daily and school schedules and an overall reduction in serious incidents at our facilities.

As always, TJJD appreciates the opportunity to respond to the OIO and looks forward to sharing updates on these efforts that continue to move the agency effectively forward.